

**CHARTER COMMISSION  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
711 Kapiolani Blvd. Suite 1485  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

Chuck Narikiyo

Phone: 808-592-8622

E-mail: [cnarikiyo@honolulu.gov](mailto:cnarikiyo@honolulu.gov)

**CHARTER COMMISSION APPROVES 11 CHARTER AMENDMENTS FOR 2006  
BALLOT; WILL VOTE ON REMAINING PROPOSALS ON MAY 10TH**

HONOLULU, HAWAII, May 8, 2006

The 2005-2006 Honolulu City Charter Commission has approved 11 proposals for the 2006 General Election Ballot and will vote on the remaining proposals this Wednesday. The second voting meeting is scheduled as follows:

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2006 AT 2:00 P.M.**

**Honolulu Hale – City Council Committee Room (Second Floor)**

- Testimony, discussion and voting on 20 remaining proposals
- Topics include ethics, city department descriptions, planning and zoning, curbside recycling, bicycle-friendly policy
- Agenda available at <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc/agendas.htm>

The Commission has dedicated the past year gathering public input on potential changes to the City Charter. In the past few months the Commission publicized and held nearly twenty public meetings in Honolulu Hale and three community meetings around the island. “We’ve had many

long meetings, heard from numerous individuals and organizations, researched the issues, and given all the proposals careful consideration. Now it's time to make a decision on which proposals will be placed on the ballot in November," said Commission Chair Donn Takaki.

Chair Takaki continued, "We have already heard from many residents, organizations, businesses, and government officials throughout this process. If we have not heard from you yet, we hope to hear from you now. Please take a look at the proposals and tell us which ones you believe are truly worthy of being put on the ballot this fall."

**ELEVEN PROPOSALS APPROVED FOR THE BALLOT.** At last week's meeting, the Commission heard extensive testimony and discussed and voted on 23 of the remaining proposals. Out of the 23 proposals considered, 11 were approved for the 2006 General Election ballot.

Proposals that were approved include: changes to City Council term limits and staggered terms; a new dedicated fund for land conservation and affordable housing; and various housekeeping amendments. The complete list is available at <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc/proposals.htm>. The approved proposals will now be referred to the Commission's Style Committee for stylistic or technical changes and legal/agency review.

**LEARN ABOUT THE PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS.** Copies of all proposals are posted as PDF files on the Commission website, <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc>. Hard copies are also available for viewing at the Commission office at 711 Kapiolani Boulevard Suite 1485, or the Municipal Library in the City Council Annex at 558 S. King Street.

**HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS.** The public is encouraged to attend the meetings and provide testimony. Register to speak by calling 592-8622 or emailing [charter@honolulu.gov](mailto:charter@honolulu.gov), or fill out a sign-up form upon arrival at the meeting. Written testimony can be sent by mail to the Charter Commission, 711 Kapiolani Boulevard, Suite 1485, Honolulu, HI 96813; by fax to 592-8633; and by e-mail to [charter@honolulu.gov](mailto:charter@honolulu.gov). See official agendas posted on the Commission website for more information regarding testimony.

**NEXT STEPS.** Proposed charter amendments approved at the May 2 and May 10 meetings will be referred to the Commission's Style Committee, which will prepare finalized language for the Commission's approval in Summer 2006. Ultimately, the finalized proposed charter amendments will be placed on the 2006 General Election ballot for voter approval.

**ABOUT THE COMMISSION.** The Charter Commission is a 13-member appointed body responsible for revising the city charter, the governing document for the City & County of Honolulu. The convening of a Charter Commission provides a rare and important opportunity for major changes to city government. This is only the fourth Charter Commission convened since the adoption of the city charter in 1972.

For more information, visit the Charter Commission website at <http://www.honolulu.gov/chc> or contact the Commission staff at 592-8622 or [charter@honolulu.gov](mailto:charter@honolulu.gov).

# # #